



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Patrick Rivelli, Jr.
Application No.:	09/548683
Filed:	April 13, 2000
For:	Method for Treating Neurovascular Aneurysms
Examiner:	Julian W. Woo
Group Art Unit:	3731

PATENT

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No: S63.2-10973-US02

AMENDMENT

Prior to prosecution, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended twice) A method of treating a lesion at a neurovascular target vessel site, comprising

guiding a neuro-interventional catheter to the target site,

advancing through the catheter, a stent adapted for advancement through a catheter in an upstream to downstream direction to the target site in a contracted stent condition, and with expulsion from the catheter, downstream end first, and radial expansion at the target site, to engage the walls of the vessel,

said stent being formed of a coiled ribbon, the stent having a non-zero pitch along its length, being self-expanding and having a bending-stiffness gradient along its length due to one or more of the following:

(i) a gradient of ribbon width;

(ii) a gradient of ribbon thickness;

(iii) a gradient of size or number of openings formed in the stent ribbon, and

expelling the stent from the catheter at the target site, causing the stent to expand radially